



PATENT
Attorney Docket No. FCC-001

COM-001
C. 2001

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Benjamin
SERIAL NO.: 09/970,455 GROUP NO.: 2167
FILING DATE: October 3, 2001 EXAMINER: Not Yet Assigned
TITLE: Self-Learning Method and Apparatus for Rating Service Providers and Predicting Future Performance

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby make of record the patents and publications listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449, and other information contained herein, for consideration by the Examiner in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. Copies of the patents are enclosed.

REMARKS

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.97, this statement is being filed (CHECK ONE):

- (1) within three (3) months of the **filing date** of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(d), or within three (3) months of the **date of entry of the national stage** as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.491 in an international application, or before the mailing of the **first Office action** on the merits, or before the mailing of a **first Office action** after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. 1.114; or
- (2) after the period defined in (1) but before the mailing date of a **final action** or a **notice of allowance** under 37 C.F.R. 1.311, and
 - the requisite Statement is below, OR
 - the requisite fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p), namely **\$180.00**, is included herein, or

- (3) after the mailing date of a **final action or notice of allowance** but before the payment of the issue fee, AND
- the requisite Statement is below, AND
- the requisite petition fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p), namely **\$180.00** is included herein.

It is respectfully requested that each of the patents and publications listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, and other information contained herein, be made of record in this application.

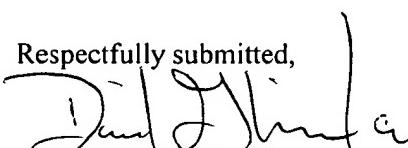
STATEMENT

As required under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e), Applicant(s), through the undersigned, hereby state either that [check the appropriate space only if either (2) or (3) is checked on the previous page and the Statement is required]:

1. Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application **not more than three months** prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement; or
2. No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this Statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to **any individual** designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) **more than three months** prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Date: December 28, 2001
Reg. No. 42,898

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Respectfully submitted,


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SHEET 1 OF 1

| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT CONFIDENTIAL COMMERCIAL | | | | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: FCC-001 APPLICANT(S): Benjamin et al. SERIAL NO.: 09/970,455 FILING DATE: October 3, 2001 GROUP: 2167 | | | | | |
|--|--|--------------------|----------|---|-------|--------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | | |
| EXAM. INIT. | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | | | CLASS | SUB CLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | | |
| EXAM. INIT. | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY CODE | CLASS | SUB CLASS | FILING DATE | ABSTRACT ONLY | ENGLISH LANG (Y/N) |
| | B1 | WO 00/45628 | 10/08/00 | WO | | | 08/02/00 | | Y |
| | B2 | WO 01/59588 | 16/08/01 | WO | | | 13/02/01 | | Y |
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| OTHER ART, JOURNAL ARTICLES, ETC. | | | | | | | | | |
| EXAM. INIT. | OTHER DOCUMENTS: (Including Author, Title, Date, Relevant Pages, Place of Publication) | | | | | | | | |
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